

Applicant : Ann-Marie Schmidt and David Stern  
Serial No.: 09/851,071  
Filed : May 8, 2001  
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Action is now due September 25, 2001. Accordingly, this Amendment is being timely filed.

Please amend the subject application as follows:

In the specification:

Please amend the specification under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.121(b)(1) as follows.

On page 7, lines 1-6, please delete the paragraph which begins "Leu Pro Leu . . ." and insert the following paragraph:

B' -- Leu Pro Leu Pro Pro Ser Pro Val Leu Ile Leu Pro Glu Ile Gly  
Pro Gln Asp Gln Gly Thr Tyr Ser Cys Val Ala Thr His Ser Ser  
His Gly Pro Gln Glu Ser Arg Ala Val Ser Ile Ser Ile Ile Glu  
Pro Gly Glu Glu Gly Pro Thr Ala Gly Ser Val Gly Gly Ser Gly  
Leu Gly Thr Leu Ala Leu Ala Leu Gly Ile Leu Gly Gly Leu Gly  
Thr Ala (SEQ ID NO: 1). --

On page 7, lines 8-14, please delete the paragraph which begins "In one embodiment . . ." and insert the following paragraph:

B<sup>2</sup> -- In one embodiment the form of soluble RAGE comprises a V domain of naturally occurring soluble RAGE. In another embodiment the form of soluble RAGE comprises a C domain of naturally occurring soluble RAGE. The 22 amino acid leader sequence of immature human RAGE is Met Ala Ala Gly Thr Ala Val Gly Ala Trp Val Leu Val Leu Ser Leu Trp Gly Ala Val Val Gly (SEQ ID NO: 2). --

On page 9, lines 18-25, please delete the paragraph which begins

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"In one embodiment . . ." and insert the following paragraph:

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B3 -- In one embodiment the peptide is a synthetic peptide or a peptide analog. The peptide may be a non-natural peptide which has chirality not found in nature, i.e. D- amino acids or L-amino acids. In another embodiment the peptide comprises at least a portion of the sequence -Asp-Ala-Glu-Phe-Arg-His-Asp-Ser-Gly-Tyr-Glu-Val-His-His-Gln-Lys-Leu-Val-Phe-Phe-Ala-Glu-Asp-Val-Gly-Ser-Asn-Lys-Gly-Ala-Ile-Ile-Gly-Leu-Met-Val-Gly-Gly-Val-Val- (SEQ ID NO: 3).--

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On page 9, lines 27-31, please delete the paragraph which begins "In a further embodiment . . ." and insert the following paragraph:

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B4 -- In a further embodiment the peptide comprises at least a portion of the sequence -Gly-Ser-Asn-Lys-Gly-Ala-Ile-Ile-Gly-Leu-Met- (SEQ ID NO: 4). In another embodiment the peptide has the amino acid sequence A-Q-N-I-T-A-R-I-G-E-P-L-V-L-K-C-K-G-A-P-K-K-P-P-Q-R-L-E-W-K (SEQ ID NO: 5).--

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On page 9, lines 33-34, please delete the paragraph which begins "In another embodiment . . ." and insert the following paragraph:

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B5 -- In another embodiment the peptide has the amino acid sequence A-Q-N-I-T-A-R-I-G-E (SEQ ID NO: 6).--

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In the claims:

Please amend claims 27-30 under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.121(c)(1) as follows. A version of the amended claims marked up to show the changes relative to the previous version thereof is attached hereto as **Exhibit B**.